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SCHAKOWSKY: PRESIDENT BUSH SHOULD RECONSIDER SERVICES OF RICHARD PERLE

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and a Chief Deputy Whip, said President Bush should reconsider the services of Richard Perle.□□

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Perle, who is chairman of the Defense Policy Board and a central figure in the Bush Administration's policy on Iraq, was hired by Global Crossing to persuade the Defense Department to drop its objection to the sale of the company to buyers in Hong Kong and Singapore.

"Richard Perle has access and influence within the Defense Department and the White House.□ No one is fooled as to why, as chair of the Defense Policy Board, he was hired by Global Crossing to lobby the Defense Department," Schakowsky said.

She added, "What is even more disturbing is that Mr. Perle, an influential voice within the Administration, is willing to represent a company seeking the approval of a sale that the Defense Department and the FBI have warned may threaten our national security."

"Beyond the clear case of conflict of interest, Mr. Perle's actions may weaken our security interests.□ For those reasons, President Bush should reconsider the services of Mr. Perle," Schakowsky concluded.